

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

The School of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies provides a curriculum that focuses on the study of human society in all its aspects. Central themes include relationships among individuals and groups, the functioning of the political system and economy, the nature and influence of culture, relationships among nations, and the relationship of human society to the natural environment.

The School offers Bachelor's degree programs in Anthropology, Economics, Environmental Studies, Ethnic Studies, Family and Consumer Sciences, Gerontology, Government, Social Science, Sociology, and Liberal Studies; minors in the above programs as well as California Studies, Labor Studies and Women's Studies; and Master degree programs in Anthropology, Economics, Government, International Affairs, Public Policy and Administration, and Sociology.

All of the programs in the school use and teach skills in critical thinking and problem solving; finding and using information; oral and written communication; application of mathematical tools to social issues; adaptation to a variety of situations; and sensitivity to and understanding of other peoples and their customs, problems, values, and aspirations. The School is further dedicated to developing a sense of responsibility to participate in and contribute to the human community and a healthy natural environment.

The knowledge and skills developed by the School's programs are applicable to a wide variety of careers. Students should consult with individual departments for further career and graduate and professional school opportunities for graduates of those departments.

Unique strengths of program within the school include:

Anthropology: Research opportunities are available in cultural anthropology, archaeology and physical anthropology. CSUS has a Museum of Anthropology.

Economics: The economics major provides students with the skills to be competitive in a dynamic economy while preparing them to be informed, knowledgeable citizens.

Environmental Studies: A nationwide study of environmental studies programs showed the CSUS program to be number one in internship participation and number two in overall career satisfaction among graduates.

Ethnic Studies: Students gain knowledge, skills and perspectives from an interdisciplinary examination of the cultural, historical and social experience of ethnic groups and their contributions to shaping meaningful lives for themselves and others in this nation and the diaspora.

Family and Consumer Sciences: Effective Fall 1996, the Home Economics degree program is now titled Family and Consumer Sciences. In addition to preparing students for teaching careers, the department offers several concentrations.

Gerontology: Gerontology offers a multi-disciplinary program involving courses in 12 departments in five schools.

Government: Ideally located in the state capital, the department offers students unique opportunities to integrate their studies of politics and theory with direct experience through an extensive range of internships in state and also local government.

International Affairs: This graduate program prepares students for international careers in the private and public sector via an interdisciplinary curriculum coupled with opportunities to study abroad and undertake internships.

Liberal Studies: Students enjoy a wide-ranging selection of courses in different disciplines; they receive the constant, assured help of five advisors as they prepare for careers in K-12 education or in business and government.

Public Policy Administration: This graduate program provides professional graduate preparation for current and future public decision makers in California.

Social Science: The Social Science Program is offered by the Departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Government, History, Psychology and Sociology to provide a major and concurrent subject matter preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Social Science.

Sociology: Students have an opportunity to do original research and to learn statistical analysis of social data, computer processing of data, and the SPSS computer program.

Women's Studies: This program offers a minor and an interdisciplinary special major which examines women's contribution to culture, knowledge, and society.

For more information, contact:

Dean, School of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies
(New position; appointment to be made)
(916) 278-5344

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